Social Networking Safety Tips

Basic assumptions about social networking sites:

- Once something is posted on a social networking site, it can quickly spread. No amount of effort will erase it – the Internet does not forget.
- You are not anonymous on the Internet.
- There are people on the Internet who are not who they purport to be and will take advantage of you if afforded the opportunity.
- Everyone on the Internet can see what you post, from where you post it, who your friends and associates are, the comments your friends make, and your "witty" replies.
- An embarrassing comment or image may come back to haunt you.
- There is a complete record of your online activity...somewhere.

Recommendations:

- Do not post anything you would be embarrassed to see on the evening news**.**
- Do not accept friend/follower requests from anyone you do not know.
- Avoid using third-party applications. If needed, do not allow them to access your social networking accounts, friends list or address books.
- Be cautious about the images you post, and do not allow others to tag you in images they post. Doing so makes you easier to locate and accurately construct your network of friends, relatives and associates.
- Do not use the **save password**, **remember me** or **ke**ep **logged in** options from public or shared computers.
- Do not use check-ins. If check-ins are enabled, disable them.
- Be cautious when accessing online accounts from public Wi-Fi connections.
- Limit social networking to personal use.
- Do not use the same password for all of your accounts, and use strong unique passwords or pass phrases. Make sure the passwords for your financial sites are not variations of your other passwords.
- Do not use your social networking site to login to other sites. Create another user account on the new site instead
- Do not arrange meetings with people you meet online.